



**News from**

# **Congressman Ron Kind**

**REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

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## **Cong. Kind Retains Seat on Natural Resources**

**Washington, DC** – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) announced today that he will continue to serve on the House Committee on Natural Resources (formerly called the Committee on Resources) in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress. Earlier this year, Kind was appointed to the powerful Ways and Means Committee, whose members normally are required to relinquish their places on other committees. Kind, however, sought a special waiver of this rule to allow him to continue to focus on the natural resource issues that have been a priority since he was first elected 11 years ago.

Kind stated, "I am very pleased to have the opportunity to maintain my seat on the Natural Resources Committee and continue to be a leader on issues that matter to the residents of western Wisconsin, such as river quality and access to national parks, wildlife refuges and other public lands. I believe my new role on the Ways and Means Committee will enhance my ability to promote legislation that protects our great national heritage and the citizens who own it."

The overlap between Ways and Means, which has jurisdiction over health care, trade, taxes, and entitlement programs, and Natural Resources was on display last week as the two committees teamed up to pass H.R. 6 to repeal various tax breaks for oil and gas companies and reinvest the money in projects for renewable energy and energy efficiency. Kind voted for the measure on January 18, 2007, as it passed the House by a margin of 264-163.

"Coming from the great outdoor tradition of western Wisconsin, I know the value of conserving our land, water, and wildlife resources," said Kind. "That is why it was important to me to keep my place on this committee – so that I can do my part to preserve them for generations to come."

Subcommittee assignments for the committee have not yet been determined. In the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, Kind served on the Fisheries, Conservation, Wildlife & Oceans and National Parks, Recreation & Public Lands Subcommittees. The committee passed three pieces of legislation authored by Kind – the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act, Electronic Duck Stamp Act, and the Upper Mississippi River Basin Protection Act. The first two bills also passed the Senate and were signed into law by the President.

Kind will also continue his leadership roles on the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, Congressional National Wildlife Refuge Caucus, and the Congressional Mississippi River Caucus by serving as co-chair of the three organizations.